

## NEW SPECIES OF PTYCHOPTERIDAE (DIPTERA).

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The Dipterous family Ptychopteridae includes flies that are commonly confused with the true crane-flies, Tipulidae, yet are abundantly distinct. In this paper I describe two new species of *Ptychoptera* that have come to my attention in recent years, the types being preserved in my personal collection.

***Ptychoptera pendula* sp. n.**

General coloration of mesonotal praescutum and scutum polished black; scutellum obscure yellow; knobs of halteres infuscated; femora yellow, the tips narrowly blackened; wings with a faint brown tinge, the prearcular and costal portions a little more yellowish; no dark pattern excepting a narrow seam on cord; *r-m* before fork of *Rs*; abdomen black, the caudal margins of the segments narrowly pale; hypopygium black; male hypopygium with lateral lobes of tergite short and broad; dististyle prolonged into a slender compressed yellow blade that hangs pendant.

*Male*.—Length, about 8–9 mm.; wing, 8–8.5 mm.; antenna about 4–4.4 mm.

*Female*.—Length, about 9 mm.; wing, 9 mm.

Rostrum reddish brown; mouthparts obscure yellow; palpi brown. Antennae (male) about one-half the length of body; scape and pedicel obscure brownish yellow; flagellum black; flagellar segments cylindrical, with short scattered verticils. Head polished black.

Pronotum obscure yellow. Mesonotal praescutum and scutum polished black; scutellum obscure yellow, parascutella darkened; mediotergite black, the surface microscopically alutaceous. Pleura black, gray pruinose; dorsopleural membrane brownish yellow. Halteres yellow, the knobs infuscated. Legs with the coxae yellow, the fore and hind pair narrowly darkened on basal portions; trochanters yellow; femora yellow, the tips narrowly but conspicuously blackened; tibiae yellow, the tips more narrowly blackened; tarsi passing from brown to black. Wings with a faint brownish tinge, the prearcular and costal portions a little more yellowish; no pattern except for a narrow brown seam on cord; veins brown. Macrotrichia at wing-apex involving the cells beyond the general level of the fork of cell  $R_4$ . Venation: *r-m* connecting

with  $R_s$  some distance before fork; fork of  $M_{1+2}$  about one-third to two-fifths as deep as cell  $R_4$ .

Abdomen polished black, the caudal margins of the intermediate segments narrowly pale; hypopygium black, excepting the pendulous lobes of the dististyle which are yellow. Male hypopygium with the lateral tergal lobes short and broad, the apex truncate and with a subacute tooth or lobule at mesal apical angle, this directed mesad; median notch of tergite sub-circular or only slightly transverse. Dististyle prolonged into a compressed yellow blade that hangs pendant; at base with a slender arm that terminates in an acute spine, the surface with strong scattered spinous setae; beyond this lobe with a slightly shorter dusky lobe that is slightly expanded at outer end, the surface with abundant setigerous tubercles.

*Habitat*.—Colorado.

*Holotype*, ♂, Green Mountain Falls, near Manitou, altitude 8300 feet, June 27, 1934 (C. P. Alexander). *Allotopotype*, ♀, June 26, 1934. *Paratopotypes*, 3 ♂♂, June 26–27, 1934. *Paratypes*, 2 ♂♂, Monarch Pass, altitude 10,500 feet, July 1, 1934 (C. P. Alexander).

*Ptychoptera pendula* is generally similar to *P. minor* Alexander (western United States), agreeing in the small size and general appearance, differing in the coloration of the abdomen and structure of the male hypopygium.

#### ***Ptychoptera lenis coloradensis* subsp. n.**

As in the typical form, differing in the small size and slight details of structure of the male hypopygium. In the latter feature, the tergite bears a slender glabrous spine shortly before the apex of each lobe lying in the axil of the elongate cylindrical lobule borne on the ventro-mesal face of each tergal lobe.

*Male*.—Length, about 7–8 mm.; wing, 7–8 mm.

*Female*.—Length, about 8.5–9 mm.; wing, 8–8.5 mm.

*Holotype*, ♂, Mount Avery, Gothic, Colorado, altitude 10,000 feet, July 5, 1934 (J. Hallahan). *Allotopotype*, ♀. *Paratypes*, ♂ ♀, Monarch Pass, Colorado, altitude 10,500 feet, July 1, 1934 (C. P. Alexander); Gothic, Colorado, altitude 9500–10,000 feet, July 5–12, 1934 (C. P. Alexander); Salida, Colorado, altitude 7500 feet, June 30, 1934 (C. P. Alexander).

I believe the small Rocky Mountain representative of *Ptych-*

*optera lenis* Osten Sacken (Bull. U. S. Geol. Surv., 3: 206-207; 1877) should be considered as subspecifically distinct from the Pacific Coast form. In size and general appearance, the present form is much like *P. pendula* sp. n., but the mesonotum is not as polished black as in the latter, being a dull grayish black with the praescutal striae somewhat more distinct. The male hypopygia of the two species are entirely distinct.

***Ptychoptera madagascariensis* sp. n.**

General coloration yellow, including the entire thoracic pleura; mesonotal praescutum black, with a conspicuous central pale stripe; scutellum yellow; mediotergite darkened on posterior third; wings subhyaline or weakly yellow tinged, with a narrow dark seam on cord; abdomen chiefly yellow, the caudal margins of the tergites darkened.

*Male*.—Length, about 8.5-9 mm.; wing, 6.5-7 mm.; antenna, about 4.3-4.5 mm.

Described from alcoholic specimens.

Rostrum and palpi pale yellow. Antennae 15-segmented, relatively long, about one-half the length of body; scape, pedicel and first flagellar segment yellow, the remaining segments brown; flagellar segments nearly cylindrical, with short verticils. Front yellow; posterior sclerites of head brownish black.

Pronotum uniformly yellow. Mesonotal praescutum polished black, with a conspicuous median paler stripe; scutum black, irregularly paler on lateral portions; scutellum yellow, parascutella black; mediotergite yellow on cephalic two-thirds, the posterior portion black. Pleura uniformly yellow. Halteres yellow. Legs with the coxae and trochanters yellow; femora yellow, their apices restrictedly darkened, more conspicuously so in the paratype specimen; tibiae and basitarsi obscure yellow, the tips narrowly darkened; outer tarsal segments brownish black. Wings subhyaline or very faintly yellow tinged; prearcular field and cells *C* and *Sc* light yellow; a narrow but distinct brown crossband on cord, extending from origin of *Rs* to *m-cu*; veins dark. Macrotrichia of cells relatively sparse, involving cells  $R_2$  to  $M_3$ , inclusive, more or less restricted to outer third or less of the cells. Venation: *Rs* short, straight, less than *r-m*;  $R_{2+3}$  running very close to  $R_1$  so the latter cell is unusually narrow, while vein  $R_2$  is reduced to a point and cell  $R_2$  to a narrow strip; *r-m* and basal section of  $M_3$  in alignment; cell  $R_4$  approximately one and

one-half to two times as deep as cell  $M_1$ ; cell 1st  $A$  wide but relatively short.

Abdomen chiefly yellow, the caudal margins of the tergites darkened; hypopygium brown. Male hypopygium with the tergite profoundly incised medially, each lateral arm bearing a low tubercle beyond midlength. Dististyle long and slender, with a long setiferous lobe at about one-fifth the length and a much shorter and smaller pale lobe on the same face just beyond one-third the length.

*Habitat*.—Madagascar.

*Holotype*, alcoholic ♂, Nanisana, 1933 (G. Olsoufieff); through Dr. G. C. Crampton. *Paratopotype*, alcoholic ♂.

This is the first species of *Ptychoptera* to be discovered in the Malagasian Subregion. It is very distinct from the six species hitherto made known from continental Africa, south of the Sahara, these being as follows:

*Ptychoptera africana* Alexander (1920); Southern Nigeria.

*P. camerounensis* Alexander (1921); Cameroun.

*P. capensis* Alexander (1917); Natal to eastern Transvaal.

*P. ghesquierei* (Collart) (1935); Belgian Congo.

*P. hopkinsi* Edwards (1932); Uganda.

*P. uelensis* Alexander (1928); Northern Belgian Congo (Uele).

Besides the above, the only species of the genus from Africa is the Palaearctic *P. surcoufi* (Séguy), described in 1925 from Algeria.

In the present fly, the coloration of the thorax and the venation, especially the very narrow cells  $R$  and  $R_2$ , together with the greatly reduced vein  $R_2$ , are distinctive.

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